

Since 1875 quite a number of those remaining East have removed themselves, and the claims for expenses of removal have been constantly pressed upon the department and congress. These people are the main claimants to Cherokee citizenship. Under the invitation of the nation & for all Cherokees to come and join them and partake of the blessings of Cherokee citizenship they have been suffered or permitted by the Cherokee authorities to come into their country, and, pending action upon their claims to citizenship, have been allowed to settle down, occupy and cultivate land, and make all the improvements thereon. Applications have been frequently made for the removal of such persons as intruders. The department, in 1880, authorized the agent to permit such of them as could show prima facie right to Cherokee citizenship to remain in the country, to await final action in their cases, under such rules as would be adopted regarding them.